



ST. JOSEPH POLICE DEPARTMENT COMPENSATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

This statement is issued in response to public concerns regarding St. Joseph Police Department compensation.

Less than two years ago, the City of St. Joseph and the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #3, entered into an agreement under which police officers, detectives, and sergeants would receive annual wage increases in the amount of 3% per year and those employed before October 2017 would receive an additional 7% increase over a three-year period.

In recent months, the City has completed a salary study that has shown starting police officer salary should be increased from \$42,695 to \$48,348. The city has offered to increase starting wages to \$49,000 in order to properly compensate our recently hired officers and attract new officers to law enforcement.

The city has also offered to increase current police officer and detective compensation, based on length of service. On average, this offer would increase the annual salary of police officers, detectives, and sergeants by over \$5,100. Including those individuals training to become police officers, the salary cost to the city would increase by an average of \$5,694 per officer.

The city remains committed to compensating its commissioned law enforcement officers fairly. That commitment must be sustainable.

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